

**CONSOLIDATED CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS
COUNTY OF MARION
STATE OF INDIANA**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1, 2005

ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIANAPOLIS-MARION COUNTY TREE BOARD

WHEREAS, the quality of life in Indianapolis-Marion County is directly correlated to the quality of its natural environment, including its trees; and

WHEREAS, the need for programs and policies to encourage proper tree care and planting and protection at the local level and the appropriate nature of such programs was studied carefully by the broad based Indianapolis-Marion County Tree Preservation / Conservation Policy Committee (which met from September 2001 to December 2002); and

WHEREAS, the Tree Preservation / Conservation Policy Committee proposed various priorities for comprehensively dealing with the tree quantity and quality of trees in Indianapolis-Marion County; and

WHEREAS, the recommended mechanism for carrying out advocacy and education efforts, to encourage and protect trees is a county-wide entity to be known as the Tree Board capable of receiving funds from the city and utility companies, as well as other sources; and

WHEREAS, the Tree Board should be capable of, and be responsible for, carrying out some or all of the following activities within Indianapolis-Marion County:

1. Monitoring the urban forest and/or conduct on-site visits of significant tree stands to verify site status;
2. Educating the public about trees, proper tree care, and benefits and resources; and
3. Recommending to the Mayor potential policy changes affecting the trees within Indianapolis; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor wishes to solicit the ongoing assistance of individuals with knowledge and experience relating to trees and their care; and

WHEREAS, the Tree Board should annually report to the Mayor;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Indianapolis, Indiana, and successor-in-interest to the Board of Commissioners of Marion County, Indiana, it is hereby ordered as follows:

1. The Indianapolis-Marion County Tree Board (hereinafter "Tree Board") is hereby established.
2. The Tree Board shall consist of nine (9) members, each of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor for a term of two (2) years. The members serve at the pleasure of the Mayor. The members shall serve without compensation.
3. The mission of the Tree Board shall be to:

- a. monitor the urban forest and conduct on-site visits to significant tree stands to verify site status;
- b. educate the public about trees, proper tree care, and benefits and resources; and
- c. recommend to the Mayor potential policy changes affecting the trees within Indianapolis.

4. At least once a year, the Tree Board shall provide a progress report regarding the monitoring and education programs to the Mayor. The report shall estimate the cost and benefits of those programs, and the methods that will be used to measure the success of the programs, and it may address other pertinent issues.

5. The Tree Board may accept donations to conduct its mission, but shall not solicit for donations. To achieve such, the Tree Board may file for incorporation as a not-for-profit organization under the laws of the State of Indiana and for tax exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code; however, it shall not be required to do so. Prior to filing for incorporation, the articles of incorporation and corporate by-laws shall be submitted to the Mayor for approval. Additionally, the articles of incorporation and corporate by-laws shall contain a provision, which requires approval by the Mayor of any subsequent amendment to the articles of incorporation, or corporate by-laws, which change the composition, or manner of selection of the membership.

6. The Tree Board shall adopt organizational by-laws to manage the board's affairs, which shall be submitted to the Mayor for approval. Additionally, the by-laws shall contain a provision, which requires approval by the Mayor of any subsequent amendment to said organizational by-laws, which changes the composition, or manner of selection of the membership. The Tree Board should adopt rules for the conduct and procedures of the Tree Board's meetings which are consistent with the Indiana Open Door Law and the Access to Public Records Act.

7. This Executive Order shall be effective immediately.

DATED this 26 day of May 2005.

CONSOLIDATED CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS
AND MARION COUNTY, INDIANA

By: Bart Peterson
Bart Peterson, Mayor

APPROVED FOR FORM AND LEGALITY:

By: Kobi M. Wright
Kobi M. Wright, Corporation Counsel